

ST. PATRICK'S MISSION.

Christmas was, indeed, a happy day at St. Patrick's Mission, when eighteen children of the fierce Caddo and bold Kiowa tribes received their first Holy Communion. Seventeen pupils of the same school also received the regenerating waters of Baptism. The work of the Pastor, Reverend Isidore Ricklin, and his zealous assistant, the Reverend Elias Fink, is certainly blessed with success, as it is quite perceptible.

Visitors, on beholding these children, cannot be but deeply impressed by their simplicity and earnestness. There are at present eighty children in school, the number being smaller than in former years, forty-six children of the famous "Geronimo band" have been compelled to attend school at Fort Sill. These children, since their coming from Alabama five years ago, have been at the Mission, and, needless to say, have become endeared to their teachers; all were baptized, enrolled in the League of the Sacred Heart, and twenty were monthly communicants. It was very sad to witness their grief on hearing they could not return to the Mission. They wrote to the good Fathers to come and see them. The Reverend Isidore Ricklin went and said mass in one of the Apache tepees; precisely at eight o'clock every child was present to assist at the august Sacrifice, during which they recited the Rosary in common, beseeching our Blessed Lady to watch over them and shield them from danger. After mass was finished, the Reverend Father exhorted them to be good and obedient children and to re-